

News Release

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November 18, 2002 Irl-pagemaster-pa@Irl02.usace.army.mil

Corps to Increase Day Use Fees in 2003

LOUISVILLE, KY. – Recreation day-use and special event permit fees will increase Jan.1, 2003 for the following lakes in Kentucky: Barren River, Green River, Nolin River, Rough River and Carr Creek. These lakes are in the jurisdictional area of the Louisville District, United States Army Corps of Engineers.

The change is part of a Corps-wide increase in recreation day use and special event permit fees at its lakes.

"The Corps operates these facilities for the use of all Americans", said Maj. Gen. Robert H. Griffin, director of Civil Works, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. "These fees will help us sustain the quality of our facilities for the enjoyment of our visitors."

Recreation use fees collected help offset operating and maintenance costs at Corps facilities, to ensure public demand for high quality recreation opportunities is met.

More than 375 million Americans visit Corps lakes for recreation purposes each year. One quarter of them come to fish. Others come to camp, hike, hunt and view wildlife.

The new fee schedule will be as follows:

- A fee of \$1 per person, up to \$4 per vehicle, will be charged at developed swimming beaches, and a fee of \$3 will be charged for boat launching at ramps that have additional amenities. The current fee is a maximum of \$3 per vehicle at beaches and \$2 for boat launchings.
- An annual pass may be purchased for \$30 to permit the holder and accompanying passengers to use all day use facilities at Corps-operated parks for the calendar year. Persons with a second vehicle may purchase a duplicate annual pass at the reduced rate of \$15. Annual passes for 2003 will be sold after Nov. 15 at the increased price and are on sale at the lake offices. A form to purchase annual passes through the mail is available at http://www.lrl.usace.army.mil, along with general recreation information about Louisville District lakes. The current fee is \$25 for an annual pass and \$5 for a second pass.
- Golden Age and Golden Access passports will be honored. Holders will receive a 50 percent discount on all recreation use fees.
- There will be no fee for children 12 years old or younger.

• The basic fee to issue a special events permit will be \$50. The current fee is \$25.

The Corps is conducting a stringent review to ensure Corps recreation use fees are comparable to those charged by other providers for similar facilities and services in the local area. This is being done to ensure unfair competition with private industry is avoided and may result in increased camping fees at some locations.

The Corps charges fees under the authority of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act for recreation sites, facilities and services provided at government expense.

-- 30 --

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Louisville District civil works program encompasses 75,500 square miles of the lower Ohio River basin in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, and Tennessee. The District operates 20 lakes and 14 navigation structures. Its mission includes real estate transactions, flood control, regulatory activities, disaster response and mobilization readiness. The Louisville District plans, designs and constructs Department of Defense military facilities in Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, Ohio, and Michigan.